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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

May - 1980



RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P.O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA 59601



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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

May 1980

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID E. FULLER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
FRED BARRETT, ADMINISTRATOR

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
BOX 1728
HELENA, MT 59601

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Employment and Training Administration

If additional information is desired,
contact: Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis Section
Employment Security Division
P.O. BOX 1728
Helena, MT 59601
Phone: (406) 449-2430

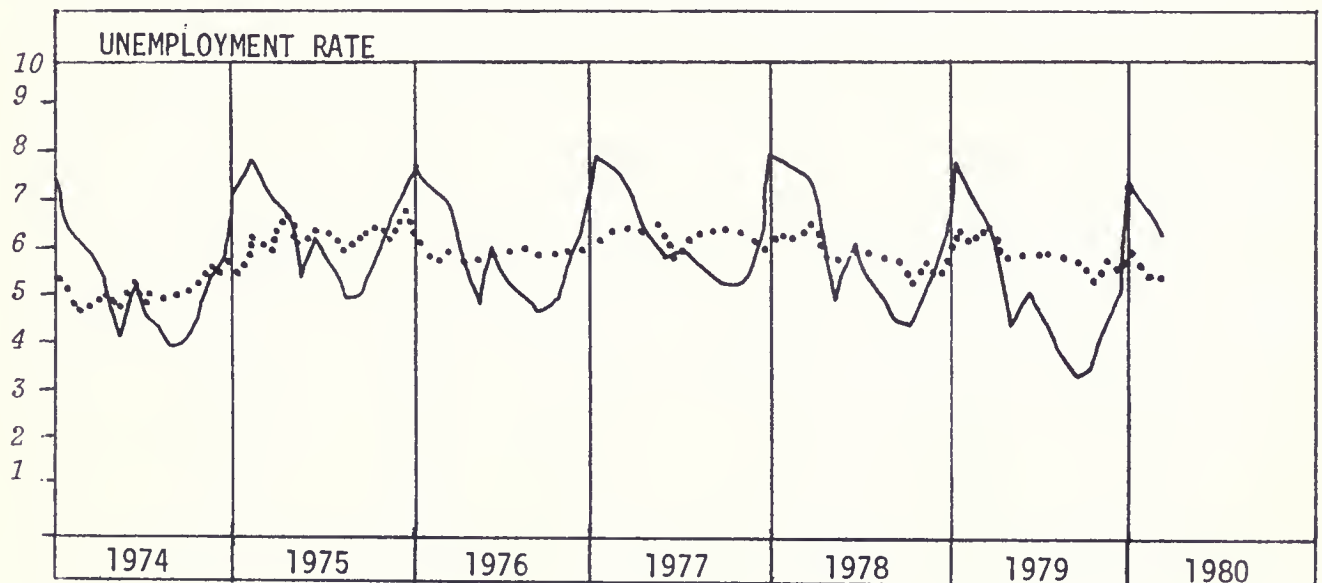
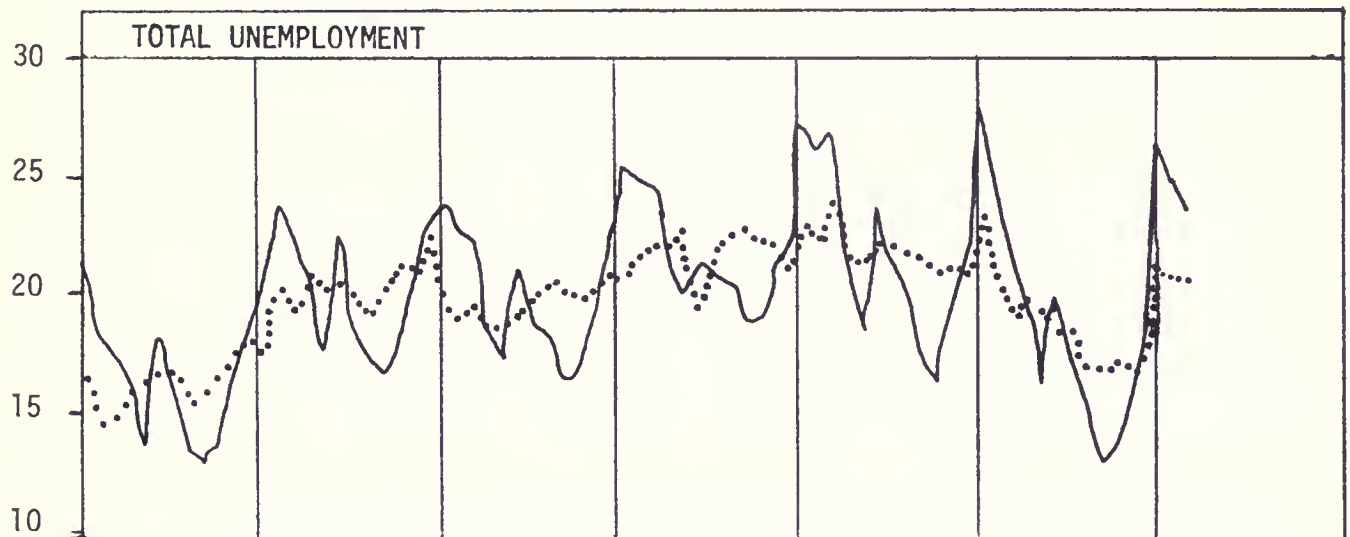
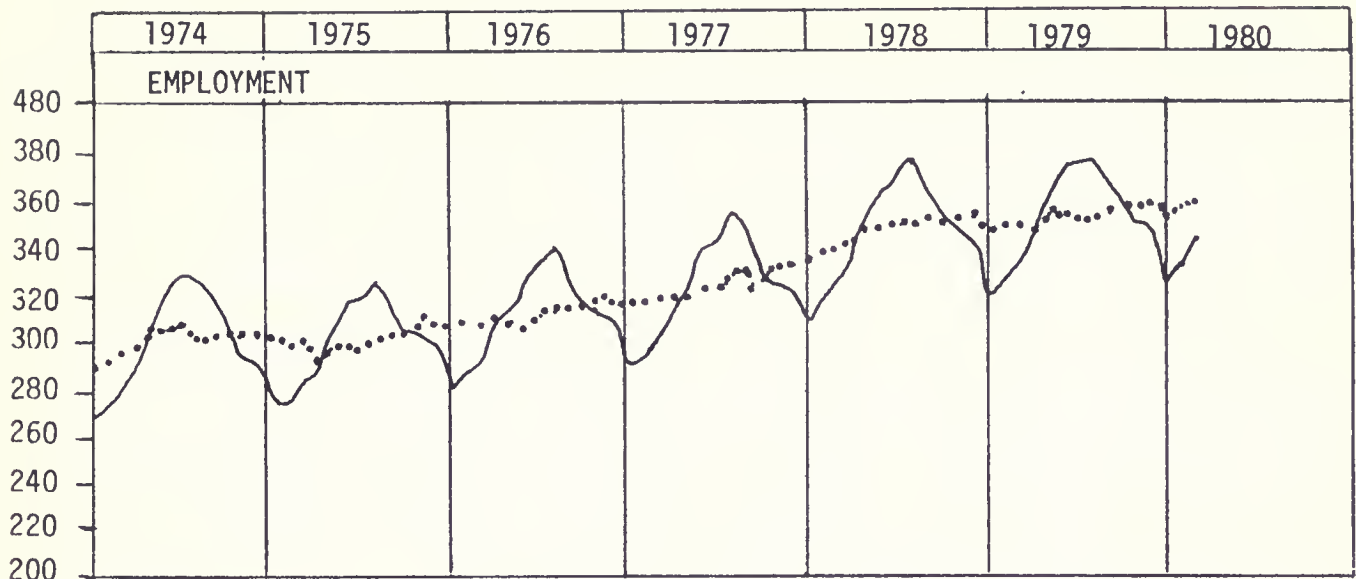
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.
2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.
3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).
4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.
5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.
6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.
7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.
8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.
9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.
10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.
11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.
13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.
14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: _____)

(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED:)



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis
Employment Security Division
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601
Phone: (406) 449-2430

* STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS *



The civilian labor force in Montana rose from 364,300 in March to 371,700 in April. In April, 1979 the total was 7,200 lower at 363,500. Employment figures continued to climb when the employment total for March of 340,000 rose to 347,300 for April. This compares to an employment count of 343,000 for April, 1979.

Since the growth in the civilian labor force was not covered by the rise in employment, the unemployment figures are not favorable. Unemployment figures rose from 23,800 in March to 24,400 for April, 1980. This compares to an unemployment count of 20,200 in April, 1979. Montana's unemployment rate rose slightly from 6.5% in March to 6.6% in April, 1980. This is a full percentage point higher than the unemployment rate one year earlier of 5.6%.

Montana's economy remained relatively unchanged during this reporting period. The lumber and woods industry reflected mixed movement while construction consisted mostly of ongoing construction or contracts that were let in the fall of 1979. The service industry shows increasing activity for April. Employment picked up in the agricultural industries, while planting and seeding takes place.

Some lumber mills have called workers back to the mills, but for indefinite periods. Mills have reported going to a three-or-four day work week, while others are working employees every other week just to keep them in the area. The woods crew in Superior have begun hauling logs for pulp. If the pulp market holds up they will add more to the crew. Thirty men returned to work at a lumber company in Seeley Lake. A Missoula mill called back 800 men. At the same time, some of the jobs have only lasted a couple of weeks and they are laid off again. Workers are also returning to the unemployment lines as the log supplies run out.

There were no new major construction projects reported. A number of highway construction projects are starting up. These are contracts that were let in the fall. New housing should pick up with the State Board of Housing money going toward low-income homes in Montana. Building permits consist mainly of housing improvements and additions.

Retail trade is, for the most part, unchanged. At the same time, the services industry is picking up as they prepare for their busy time of the year. Agricultural activity reflects more employment during their planting and seeding season. By the middle of May, all planting in Montana was nearly 70% completed on an average. This compares to an average of 25% completed by the same time last year. In the eastern part of Montana, the drought continues. Many of the farmers have quit seeding until they receive moisture. The forest service, along with other industrial sectors, have been hiring their seasonal or summer crews back.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Mar.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1979</u>	<u>Mar.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	55.7	56.6	54.1	.9	1.6
Employment	53.1	53.6	52.1	.5	1.0
Unemployment	2.6	3.0	2.0	.4	.6
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.3	3.8	.7	.8

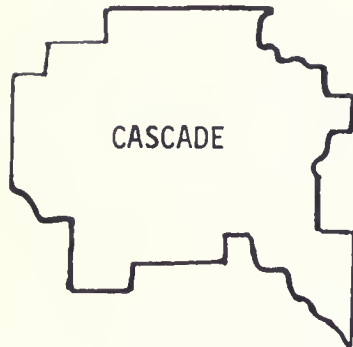
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Billings area reports some new businesses opening, while at the same time, there are some closing in the SMSA. Other economic activity includes construction projects and a few new layoffs.

New businesses include a new gas station with a six stall car wash, which should be completed soon. Also, a Japanese restaurant is opening and should employ 40 full-time and part-time persons. A new retail sales business, dealing in hot tubs and swimming pools, is open on Grand Avenue in Billings. At the same time, an auto parts store, along with a restaurant are reported as going out of business due to a lack of business. Over twenty persons are left without work after these closures. Billings merchants indicate optimism toward the near future, and feel they should take some precautions to avoid the economic problems that may arise.

A \$69,202 roofing project on the Boulder River school was awarded to a roofing contractor and should be underway soon. Construction is to begin on a natural gas plant in Evanston, Wyoming. The company is considering recruiting in Montana during August and September for the following: 50-75 welders, 100-150 pipefitters, 50 millwrights and 50 electricians. A sports complex laid off 6 persons due to budget restraints and are hoping to put these persons back to work soon. An equipment company has laid off seven persons in the last three months. A couple hundred claims were taken from city employees when they went on strike.

We can expect more layoffs and claims unless business improves. On the other hand, we should see more jobs outdoors as the weather allows for it.

Employment and Unemployment Situation*(In Thousands)*Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Mar.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1979</u>	<u>Mar.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	33.0	33.0	33.8	0	-.8
Employment	30.8	30.8	31.7	0	-.9
Unemployment	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	.1
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.8	6.3	-.2	.3

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

High interest rates continue to hamper the building industry, especially housing construction. In April, just four building permits were obtained for new houses as compared with one year ago's figure of seventeen. Great Falls banks received \$7.75 million in state "low interest" home purchasing money in mid-May. This money should stimulate the home construction this summer, since at least one-half of the state subsidized loans will be for new construction houses. One bank noted that the initial requests for these special loans has been more for pre-existing homes than new homes.

A Havre trucking firm desires to increase intrastate routes with Great Falls as the headquarters. Certain routes would be released by another truck company that desires to concentrate on long distance deliveries.

The proposed \$10 million meat packing plant continues to gain the needed support by Montana cattlemen for the projected 100,000 per year cattle supply. The necessary land to build on has already been acquired, and interest rates are a big factor in determining construction startup.

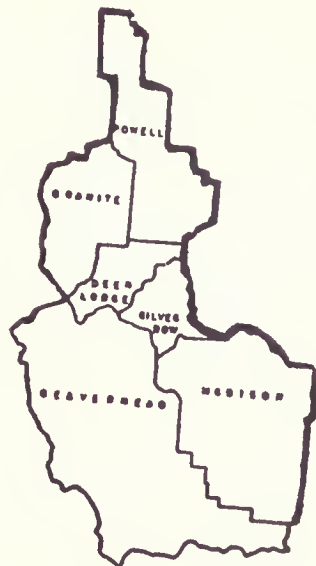
Bus routes have been selected and the bus system is forecast to be started by the summer of 1982. Officials say 95 percent of the city's residents will be within four blocks of a bus route.

Almost 200 mechanics and auto body repairers walked off their jobs April 30 following a breakdown of wage contract negotiations. Nearly one-half of the workers have accepted the latest proposed contract and have returned to work.

A 42,000 square foot shopping center was approved for development by city officials on the Fox Farm Road. Since the developers have chosen a completely residential area to construct the mall in, requirements for landscaping and business establishments will meet neighborhood concerns.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

	<u>Apr. 1980</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	33.2	32.5	34.1	.7	-.9
Employment	31.1	30.5	31.9	.6	-.8
Unemployment	2.1	2.0	2.2	.1	-.1
Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.1	6.5	.2	-.2

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Construction activity highlights the area economy this period. Residential housing starts are down due to high interest rates and the availability of money. However, several other projects in other sectors were announced, or began, this period. Building permits valued over \$2.9 million were issued in Butte for three company office remodeling projects and also for 10 condominiums at an area resort. Two of the remodeling projects will be done in the uptown Butte area. Bids were opened this period by a national motel chain for construction of a facility in Butte. Also in Butte, work resumed again at an energy research facility after a dispute between unions and the contractor. An increase in initial claims at Job Service offices was noted this period due to layoffs in construction and trucking firms. In Dillon, several projects are planned or underway. Several construction crews have resumed work on a variety of projects on the interstate highway south of Dillon. An irrigation project in Beaverhead County is nearing completion; eight workers are on a remodeling project at the Dillon Post Office; three workers will be hired to work on a city park; and, a local restaurant is remodeling and expanding.

Several layoffs were announced this period. A Butte retailer will lay off 15-20 workers; also, several other layoffs were made in retail and service occupations. Automobile sales have been quite slow in the area and operators have been laying off help. Two restaurants also laid off help due to a drop in business. Many employers are expecting recent trends to continue and anticipate additional layoffs in the future. Sixty lumber mill workers are still on indefinite layoff in Dillon--market conditions will have to improve before production will begin again.

Retail trade activity in the area ranged from average in Butte to sluggish in Dillon. In Butte, retailers report sales are about the same as last year, but expect no additional hiring. Fifteen employees were hired at a new motel in Butte and activity has picked up moderately at other motels due to tourists and conventions.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA (Cont.)

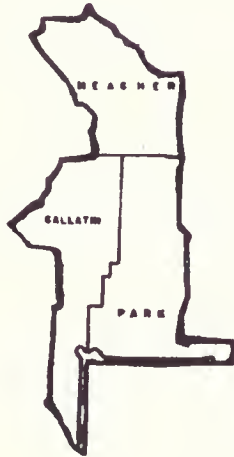
There was some hiring this period for ranch couples and experienced ranch hands. Major activities this period in agriculture were field work and cattle feeding. Farmers and ranchers in the Dillon area are considering construction of an alcohol fuel plant. A feed lot would be built in conjunction with the facility; however, nothing is certain at this time.

Plans will be announced July 1 by the operators of an Anaconda smelter concerning future operations. It is possible the facility may be closed. Also in mining occupations, preliminary contract negotiations have begun between Butte unions and a mining company--the current contract expires June 30.

A Butte energy research facility was awarded a contract this period to carry out preliminary plant design for an alcohol fuel plant that may be built in Carbon County. Another contract was awarded to a Butte college by the U.S. Department of Energy to conduct a study of geothermal energy production potential in several areas of western Montana.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

	<u>Apr. 1980</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	26.3	26.1	26.1	.2	.2
Employment	24.6	24.4	24.9	.2	-.3
Unemployment	1.7	1.7	1.2	0	.5
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.5	4.7	.1	1.9

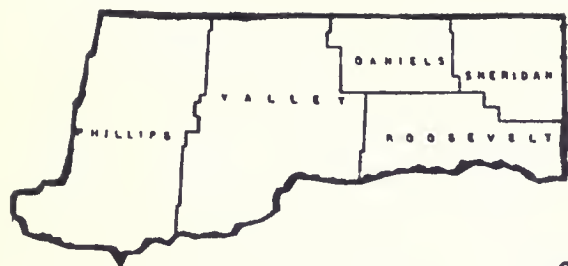
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The construction sector of the local economy is in quite a lull from high interest rates. Unlike many other areas of the state, the Bozeman LMA had few ongoing projects when the interest rate increased sharply. The industrial and municipal bond market recently dropped below the state allowable level of 9%; thus, a boost to the construction industry should soon occur as several projects planned are of this nature. A \$2 million high school will be constructed in Big Timber this summer for the only major project in this reporting period.

The new West Main mall opened in early May with twenty-two stores. Approximately 300 full and part-time employees are utilized in the new shopping center, with three more stores to complete their construction. Also, the mall dominated the building permits issued in April.

A railroad merger will improve the employment outlook in the Livingston area with 48 new positions being created. Also, a local lumber mill was able to recall its workers due to getting a railroad tie contract.

Employment outlook has improved for some of the service industries and agriculture as the summer activities increase. A mobile home manufacturer is recalling former workers after a labor dispute has been settled. A concrete block plant near Three Forks has laid off the majority of their employees due to the slow construction season.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

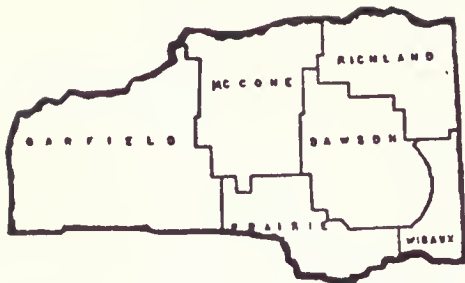
	Apr. <u>1980</u>	Mar. <u>1980</u>	Apr. <u>1979</u>	Mar. <u>1980</u>	Apr. <u>1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	18.0	17.3	17.2	.7	.8
Employment	17.4	16.5	16.5	.9	.9
Unemployment	.6	.8	.7	-.2	-.1
Unemployment Rate	3.3	4.3	4.3	-1.0	-1.0

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Two companies that laid off workers earlier this year recalled some, or all, of those workers this period. An area mine, which laid off 30 workers, is back to full strength with a workforce of 80. Ten employees of a packing plant were called back to work, however, there were previously 30 employees at the plant, and the operators do not expect to return to that level of employees. One hundred seven engineers and technicians are in the area for 3-to-6 weeks doing tests on an aircraft.

Building construction in the area is at a virtual standstill and little activity is expected through the summer. One contractor is calling back employees to work on tribal housing units--but not at the rate expected; the hiring pace should increase soon, however. Some seasonal workers on an area road maintenance crew were also called back this period. Highway paving operations are going on near Glasgow and should continue for about 3 more months.

Employment opportunities in the LMA at this time are limited, with most jobs being of a part-time or temporary nature. Hiring activity is most concentrated in retail and service industries and wage rates have been at entry levels. Job Service offices report an increasing number of calls from western Montana concerning job openings. Hiring this period in agricultural occupations was light due to dry weather, which has slowed field work. Work by seismic crews was also light due to dry conditions, however, a couple of seismic crews have begun moving equipment into the area.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

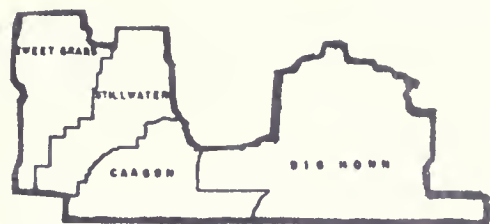
	<u>Apr. 1980</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	14.8	14.3	14.6	.5	.2
Employment	14.4	13.8	14.2	.6	.2
Unemployment	.4	.5	.4	-.1	--
Unemployment Rate	2.8	3.6	3.0	-.8	-.2

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activity in construction and oil-field development highlights the area economy this period. Housing contractors predict a slower summer this year, but several projects are now underway and lending establishments report several inquiries concerning low-interest loans. Some contractors have called back employees as the weather has warmed and activity should increase through the summer. Light hiring took place this period for highway construction workers on a project near Glendive. Oilfield drilling activity was stable this period, however, seismograph and service crews have begun hiring workers. One service company will hire 25 workers for truck driving and a new seismograph crew in the area plans to add 15-to-20 workers. Other seismograph companies have begun hiring seasonal workers, also. Though companies are hiring workers, activity was slowed by very dry conditions in the area.

Job openings in several occupations were reported this period. Surveyor assistants, sales clerks, restaurant and motel workers, clerical help, ranch hands, electricians, line erectors, welders, and medical workers were sought by employers. Job Service offices report an extreme influx of applicants from western Montana seeking jobs, but are unable to obtain employment for them.

The major activities in agriculture this period were plowing, seeding, and calving. Farmers are worried about the health of their crops due to very dry weather. Seeding for sugar beets was completed this period and there was limited demand for experienced farm workers.

Employment and Unemployment Situation*(In Thousands)*Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Mar.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1979</u>	<u>Mar.</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>Apr.</u> <u>1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	13.1	12.4	12.7	.7	.4
Employment	12.4	11.7	12.2	.7	.2
Unemployment	.7	.7	.5	0	.2
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.7	3.7	-.6	1.4

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

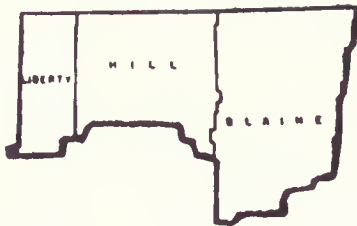
The Red Lodge area prospered from the past ski season as skier attendance created a new record crowd. The recently purchased snow making machine was a big factor in keeping the ski season open longer than any other area of Montana.

The city of Hardin received a \$400,000 grant from the Coal Board to finish their sewer system construction. Without the grant, the number of new residential hookups would have been quite limited.

State officials initial review of a Decker area coal mining expansion request was positive. The mining company wants to bring production up to 7 million tons per year which would increase 190 new jobs indirectly.

A tense, one day labor dispute occurred at a coal mine near Decker that caused some personal property damage and had several persons charged with disorderly conduct.

The Northern Cheyenne tribal officials signed a reservation-wide oil lease agreement with a major oil company. An initial \$6 million "signature bonus" will be divided among the 3,000 plus tribal members. Other benefits include employment preference provisions, 25 percent royalties on production, and annual rental fees.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

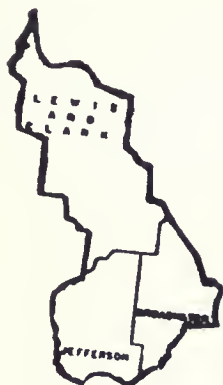
	<u>Apr. 1980</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	13.6	13.1	13.0	.5	.6
Employment	12.8	12.3	12.4	.5	.4
Unemployment	.8	.8	.6	--	.2
Unemployment Rate	5.5	6.1	4.5	-.6	1.0

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A lack of construction activity highlights the area economy this period. Construction is, and has been, slow and several layoffs were made this period--all this at a time when hours worked should be increasing and contractors should be hiring workers. However, two major projects are underway in Havre; dirt work is nearly complete on a college library site, and a local bank has started moving dirt for a new facility. Also, activity increased early in the period in exploratory drilling projects.

Hiring in non-agricultural occupations was slow but steady through the period with most hiring being done in retail and service industries. Anticipating the opening of a new department store in Havre, 20 applicants have been processed at the Job Service office. Placements in agricultural occupations were better early in the period with calls for tractor operators to do field work. The main activities in agriculture at this time are seeding, calving, and field work.

Employment could increase dramatically at a Havre tractor manufacturer in the next 5 years. Fifty-nine people work at the facility now, but employment could expand to over 1,200 if market conditions are favorable.

Employment and Unemployment Situation*(In Thousands)*Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

	<u>Apr. 1980</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	28.3	27.3	28.2	1.0	.1
Employment	26.8	25.8	26.9	1.0	-.1
Unemployment	1.5	1.5	1.3	--	-.1
Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.3	4.7	--	.6

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Events concerning the eventual construction of a regional shopping center in Helena highlight economic activity this period. Owners of an existing mall remain confident an expansion project can proceed this summer; however, immediate plans have been scaled down in light of financial market conditions. Original plans have been split into separate phases and the first phase, which may begin this summer, would involve \$4.2 million of remodeling work. Decisions by major retailers concerning which of several other malls to locate in are still pending and will influence the construction of any one mall.

A chicken and egg farmer in Townsend has filed a law suit seeking over \$800,000 in damages against a Billings packing company. The farmer's flock of chickens and inventory of eggs had to be destroyed after being contaminated with the chemical PCB. Also in Townsend, a local saw mill remains closed and is re-evaluating log requirements for the 1980 season. Possibly, some log jobs scheduled for the 1980 season will not be completed. Market conditions will determine when the mill will reopen.

There were few construction starts this period in the LMA and union representatives report their benches are still full. Availability of financing will determine when construction can begin on a new subdivision between Helena and East Helena. Work could begin this summer on the \$3.5 million recreational complex for the project. Eventually, 111 townhouses will be built on the site. \$1.5 million will be spent this summer on a State Department of Highways shop complex.

There were some calls by employers this period for workers in clerical, service, and accounting occupations. There was little activity in farm and ranch occupations and the retail segment of the area economy was generally depressed throughout the period.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	39.9	39.7	36.7	.2	3.2
Employment	34.9	35.4	33.3	.5	1.6
Unemployment	5.0	4.3	3.4	.7	1.6
Unemployment Rate	12.5	10.9	9.3	1.6	3.2

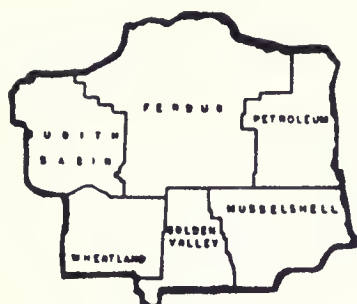
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Lumber and wood industry layoffs continue to highlight economic activity in the Kalispell LMA during this reporting period. Other industries were reported as having little change in the past month.

Full scale layoffs continue at a number of mills in the area. Sawmills have, for the most part, hit rock bottom and have nowhere else to go but up at this point. Companies are trying to keep workers in the area by working them every other week. In the Polson area, both mills are operating under limited production. Crews are being reduced as the log supply runs down. In Libby, a plywood plant has resumed full operation. Parts of the stud mill will start operations soon. Timber fallers are concerned about the amount of rain, since they will be restricted from working if it remains too dry.

Contractors are excited about a major lending company lowering its mortgage rate to 12.75%. Some construction of low income homes is reported. Retail industries show little change, while at the same time, the service sector shows mixed movement. Layoffs are reported with the end of ski season, yet there are calls for help in the service area.

A beehive manufacturer continues to trim its payrolls as orders drop off. The wood stove manufacturing plant in the Polson area remains shut down, with only a half dozen supervisors remaining on its payrolls. This is also due to a lack of orders. Agriculture has calls for general farm and ranch hands. Hopefully, we will see more jobs open up as outdoor work continues to increase as the weather permits.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

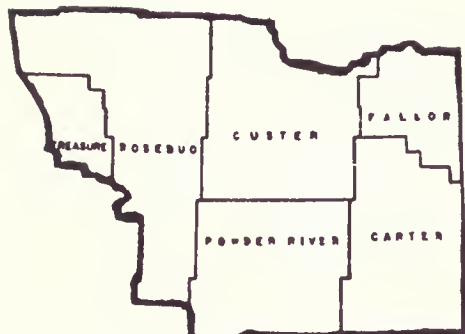
(In Thousands)

	Net Changes to Current Month From:				
	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	11.7	10.8	11.1	.9	.6
Employment	11.1	10.3	10.7	.8	.4
Unemployment	.6	.5	.4	.1	.2
Unemployment Rate	5.0	4.3	3.7	.7	1.3

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A gold mine was reopened in the Judith Mountains northwest of Lewistown. A crew of 14 has started to put the mine into operation and will triple the work force in about 90 days. Developer estimates revenue will reach \$4 million a month by September.

Agriculture workers continue to dominate employment opportunities. Cutbacks are being reported in the forestry products and by a gypsum manufacturer. The starting of construction on the new city, police, and fire department complex will aid the construction work force. Auto dealers have released some employees due to the slow economy.

Employment and Unemployment Situation*(In Thousands)*Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

	<u>Apr. 1980</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	15.3	14.7	15.3	.6	0
Employment	14.6	14.0	14.7	.6	-.1
Unemployment	.7	.7	.6	0	.1
Unemployment Rate	4.4	5.0	4.0	-.6	.4

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A labor dispute that started May 5 between laborer, carpenter unions and the Billings Contract Council has caused work stoppage or slowdown at many of the Miles City projects. Colstrip construction delays from the labor dispute is limited because of the no-strike clause on working involving power plants 3 & 4 construction.

A coal mine near Colstrip has a temporary layoff status for about 25% of the employees due to slack in coal demand. Reasons for the lesser coal demand are: the mild winter, factory shutdowns in the East, increased use of hydroelectric power during the spring runoff, and local coal fired power plants closed for maintenance. Coal mining has not been known to be seasonal employment, but as the volume of coal production increases in the 80's, such factors listed above may cause large scale layoffs when the supply needs change dramatically.

The Montana Coal Board approved Colstrip school construction grants totaling \$2.9 million. An elementary and a high school are scheduled for completion by the fall of 1982 to handle the expected permanent population of 4,500 in Colstrip.

Building permits in Miles City through April are one-third less in value as compared to the January-April period in 1979. April is one of the more active months for building requests and this April's permits number 35 as compared to 47 for one year ago. April's value of building permits is favorable in comparison with last year-\$482,507 vs \$406,427. The only major project requested in April was for constructing an addition to the courthouse.

Employment and Unemployment Situation
(In Thousands)

Net Changes to
Current Month
From:



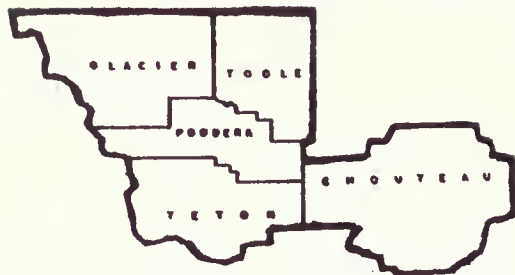
	<u>Apr. 1980</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	51.2	49.6	49.0	1.6	2.2
Employment	46.5	45.6	45.3	.9	1.2
Unemployment	4.7	4.0	3.7	.7	1.0
Unemployment Rate	9.2	8.0	7.5	1.2	1.7

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The lumber and woods industry, again, highlights economic activity in the LMA. Some mills have resumed operations, but for an indefinite period of time. No new construction is reported, while most industries in the LMA remained stable.

The woods crew for a Superior mill have begun hauling logs. This job put eight men back to work. If the pulp market holds up they will add more men to the crew. Thirty men went back to work at a lumber company in Seeley Lake. The planer crew resumed operations on a three-day week basis. Eighty men are left without work at this plant. In Missoula, 800 men returned to work at the mill. It is not known whether this is permanent or not. The planer crew returned to work at the mill in Thompson Falls. Twenty workers were called back, but the operation is expected to last only 3 to 4 weeks.

A program by the Governor, called Resource 300, will employ 21 persons in Ravalli County. The program is an effort to thin the state forest lands. A discount store in Hamilton is nearly completed and hiring 28 persons to stock shelves. Also in Hamilton, a construction company began excavation for a new road through town. New sewer and drain pipes are also being installed. Other industries within the LMA remained stable or reflected little change during this reporting period.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

Net Changes to
Current Month
From:

	<u>Apr. 1980</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>	<u>Mar. 1980</u>	<u>Apr. 1979</u>
Civilian Labor Force	17.8	16.9	17.4	.9	.4
Employment	16.8	15.8	16.5	1.0	.3
Unemployment	1.0	1.1	.9	.1	.1
Unemployment Rate	5.5	6.4	5.2	.9	.4

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Economic conditions appear to be relatively steady in the LMA during this reporting period. Activity should be picking up with the warmer weather moving into the area.

No new major construction projects reported. Construction consists mainly of remodeling projects and some completion work. The shopping center/motel is still under construction on the west edge of Cut Bank.

Oilfield activity remains steady with new hires reported each week. Help is also needed in the retail sector for waitresses and cooks. There were some calls for farm hands as they were seeding, but seeding is nearly completed in most areas. Jobs are going to be tight this summer as college students will be returning home soon.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

April 1980

<u>Social Characteristics</u>	<u>Percent of Total Insured Unemployment</u>
Non-White	12.3%
Female	18.0%
Youth	6.0%
Over 45	20.8%

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. ^{1/}

All Items

(1967 = 100)

	1978		1979		1980	
	<u>CPI-U</u>	<u>CPI-W</u>	<u>CPI-U</u>	<u>CPI-W</u>	<u>CPI-U</u>	<u>CPI-W</u>
January	187.2	187.1	204.7	204.7	233.2	233.3
February	188.4	188.4	207.1	207.1	236.4	236.5
March	189.8	189.7	209.1	209.3	239.8	239.9
April	191.5	191.4	211.5	211.8	242.5	242.6
May	193.3	193.3	214.1	214.3		
June	195.3	195.3	216.6	216.9		
July	196.7	196.7	218.9	219.4		
August	197.8	197.7	221.1	221.5		
September	199.3	199.1	223.4	223.7		
October	200.9	200.7	225.4	225.6		
November	202.0	201.8	227.5	227.6		
December	202.9	202.9	229.9	230.0		
AVERAGE	195.4	195.3	217.4	217.7		

^{1/} The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.

Table I
MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						Montana	U. S.	
1978								
January	337.1	309.7	287.7	22.0	27.4	8.1	7.0	*
February	339.5	313.1	289.2	23.9	26.4	7.8	6.9	*
March	350.8	323.7	295.1	28.6	27.1	7.7	6.6	*
April	361.8	340.0	304.9	35.1	21.8	6.0	5.8	*
May	369.1	350.2	314.1	36.1	18.9	5.1	5.5	.1
June	388.1	364.1	322.9	41.2	24.0	6.2	6.2	.4
July	393.9	372.1	328.0	44.1	21.8	5.5	6.3	.2
August	395.4	375.1	327.9	47.2	20.3	5.1	5.8	.1
September	383.4	365.6	328.8	36.8	17.8	4.6	6.0	.1
October	369.6	352.9	321.6	31.3	16.7	4.5	5.4	.1
November	365.0	344.9	318.0	26.9	20.1	5.5	5.5	*
December	362.3	340.5	317.4	23.1	21.8	6.0	5.6	*
Avg.	368.0	346.0	313.0	33.0	22.0	6.0	6.0	.1
1979								
January	348.8	320.8	299.5	21.3	28.0	8.0	6.4	*
February	347.9	323.2	300.0	23.2	24.7	7.1	6.4	1.8
March	353.2	330.7	302.9	27.8	22.5	6.4	6.1	*
April	363.5	343.3	309.1	34.2	20.2	5.6	5.5	*
May	372.0	355.3	320.0	35.3	16.7	4.5	5.2	*
June	390.6	370.4	330.2	40.2	20.2	5.2	6.0	*
July	390.6	372.4	329.4	43.0	18.2	4.7	5.8	*
August	391.5	376.0	330.0	46.0	15.5	4.0	5.9	*
September	380.8	367.5	331.6	35.9	13.3	3.5	5.6	*
October	371.1	357.3	326.8	30.5	13.8	3.7	5.6	*
November	365.5	349.8	323.6	26.2	15.7	4.3	5.6	*
December	364.3	345.3	322.7	22.6	19.0	5.2	5.6	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.2
*1980								
January	348.8	322.4	301.6	20.8	26.4	7.8	6.8	*
February	353.6	328.7	306.1	22.6	24.9	7.0	6.8	1.1
March	364.3	340.5	313.3	27.2	23.8	6.5	6.6	.7
April	371.7	347.3	313.9	33.4	24.4	6.6	6.6	.2
May	375.3	354.8	320.4	34.4	20.5	5.5		*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

Table II
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1978								
January	32.2	29.4	28.5	.9	2.8	8.7	8.1	*
February	32.5	29.8	28.9	.9	2.7	8.4	7.8	*
March	33.2	30.6	29.5	1.1	2.6	7.8	7.7	*
April	33.9	31.9	30.5	1.4	2.0	5.9	6.0	*
May	34.5	32.6	31.2	1.4	1.9	5.6	5.1	*
June	36.2	33.4	31.8	1.6	2.8	7.6	6.2	*
July	35.1	32.8	31.1	1.7	2.3	6.6	5.5	*
August	35.8	33.5	31.6	1.9	2.3	6.3	5.1	*
September	35.3	33.1	31.6	1.5	2.2	6.2	4.6	*
October	34.4	32.4	31.2	1.2	2.0	5.8	4.5	*
November	34.3	31.8	30.7	1.1	2.5	7.3	5.5	*
December	34.2	31.6	30.7	.9	2.6	7.6	6.0	*
Avg.	34.3	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.4	7.0	6.0	*
1979								
January	33.5	30.4	29.6	.8	3.1	9.3	8.0	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	8.1	7.1	*
March	33.4	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.4	7.3	6.4	*
April	33.8	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.1	6.3	5.6	*
May	34.2	32.4	31.0	1.4	1.8	5.3	4.5	*
June	35.8	33.3	31.7	1.6	2.5	6.9	5.2	*
July	35.2	33.1	31.4	1.7	2.1	6.1	4.7	*
August	34.9	33.0	31.2	1.8	1.9	5.3	4.0	*
September	34.4	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.6	4.6	3.5	*
October	33.6	32.0	30.8	1.2	1.6	4.7	3.7	*
November	33.5	31.7	30.7	1.0	1.8	5.3	4.3	*
December	33.1	31.2	30.3	.9	1.9	5.6	5.2	*
Avg.	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	32.2	29.5	28.7	.8	2.7	8.3	7.6	*
February	32.0	29.6	28.7	.9	2.4	7.5	7.0	*
March	33.0	30.8	29.7	1.1	2.2	6.8	6.5	*
April	33.0	30.8	29.4	1.3	2.2	6.6	6.6	*
May	33.1	31.2	29.8	1.4	1.9	5.7	5.5	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

Table III
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1978								
January	50.4	47.2	46.2	1.0	3.2	6.4	8.1	*
February	50.4	47.4	46.3	1.1	3.0	5.9	7.8	*
March	51.6	48.3	47.0	1.3	3.3	6.3	7.7	*
April	52.0	49.7	48.1	1.6	2.3	4.4	6.0	*
May	52.8	50.7	49.0	1.7	2.1	4.0	5.1	*
June	55.1	52.4	50.5	1.9	2.7	4.9	6.2	*
July	54.6	52.2	50.2	2.0	2.4	4.3	5.5	*
August	55.1	52.8	50.6	2.2	2.3	4.2	5.1	*
September	55.8	53.7	52.0	1.7	2.1	3.7	4.6	*
October	54.4	52.7	51.3	1.4	1.7	3.1	4.5	*
November	54.5	52.0	50.8	1.2	2.5	4.6	5.5	*
December	54.6	52.1	51.0	1.1	2.5	4.7	6.0	*
Avg.	53.4	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.5	4.7	6.0	*
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	6.1	8.0	*
February	52.8	50.1	49.0	1.1	2.7	5.1	7.1	*
March	53.1	50.7	49.4	1.3	2.4	4.5	6.4	*
April	54.1	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.0	3.8	5.6	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	3.1	4.5	*
June	56.8	54.7	52.9	1.8	2.1	3.7	5.2	*
July	57.1	55.2	53.2	2.0	1.9	3.3	4.7	*
August	56.9	55.2	53.1	2.1	1.7	2.9	4.0	*
September	57.1	55.6	54.0	1.6	1.5	2.5	3.5	*
October	55.9	54.5	53.1	1.4	1.4	2.6	3.7	*
November	56.1	54.3	53.1	1.2	1.8	3.1	4.3	*
December	56.2	54.1	53.1	1.0	2.1	3.7	5.2	*
Avg.	55.3	53.3	51.8	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	55.0	51.9	50.9	1.0	3.1	5.6	7.6	*
February	55.6	52.5	51.5	1.0	3.1	5.6	7.0	.7
March	56.6	53.6	52.4	1.2	3.0	5.3	6.5	.3
April	55.7	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.6	4.6	6.6	*
May	56.1	53.7	52.1	1.6	2.4	4.2	5.5	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

Table IV
MONTANA
Statewide Employment by Industry

INDUSTRY	in Thousands					Net Changes to Current Month from:	
	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	371.7	364.3	363.5	7.4	8.2		
EMPLOYED PERSONS	347.3	340.5	343.3	6.8	4.0		
Persons Employed in Agriculture	33.4	27.2	34.2	6.2	-8		
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	24.4	23.8	20.2	.6	4.2		
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	6.6	6.5	5.6	.1	1.0		
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	6.5	5.5	5.5	1.0	1.0		

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	279.3	279.9	277.4	- .6	1.9		
MANUFACTURING	22.3	24.8	25.6	-2.5	-3.3		
Durable Goods	13.4	16.2	16.8	-2.8	-3.4		
24 Lumber and Wood Products	6.8	9.6	10.2	-2.8	-3.4		
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.0	3.0	3.1	0	-.1		
Other Durable Goods	3.6	3.6	3.5	0	.1		
Nondurable Goods	9.0	8.6	8.8	.4	.2		
20 Food and Kindred Products	3.9	3.8	3.8	.1	.1		
27 Printing and Publishing	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0		
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.1	1.0	1.0	.1	.1		
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.5	1.7	.2	0		
MINING	7.3	7.6	7.0	-.3	.3		
10 Metal Mining	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0		
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	2.4	2.3	2.1	.1	.3		
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	2.9	3.3	2.9	-.4	0		
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	13.4	12.7	13.8	.7	-.4		
15 General Building Contractors	4.3	4.2	4.9	.1	-.6		
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	3.3	3.0	3.3	.3	0		
17 Special Trade Contractors	5.8	5.5	5.6	.3	.2		
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	22.5	22.6	22.1	-.1	.4		
40 Railroad Transportation	6.8	6.8	7.0	0	-.2		
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.5	6.6	6.4	-.1	.1		
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	9.2	9.2	8.7	0	.5		
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	73.4	72.3	72.6	1.1	.8		
Wholesale Trade	17.4	17.5	17.1	-.1	.3		
Retail Trade	56.0	54.8	55.5	1.2	.5		
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	8.1	8.1	8.3	0	-.2		
54 Food Stores	7.6	7.6	7.6	0	0		
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	8.6	8.6	8.8	0	-.2		
58 Eating and Drinking Places	20.7	19.7	19.9	1.0	.8		
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	11.0	10.8	10.9	.2	.2		
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	12.7	12.8	12.5	.1	.2		
SERVICES	56.3	55.5	53.9	.8	2.4		
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	6.3	6.3	6.1	0	.2		
72 Personal Services	2.6	2.5	2.6	.1	0		
80 Medical and other Health Services	18.6	18.6	17.4	0	1.2		
Other Services	28.8	28.2	27.8	.6	1.0		
GOVERNMENT	71.4	71.7	70.0	-.3	1.4		
91 Federal Government	11.6	11.2	12.7	.4	-1.1		
92 State Colleges and Universities	8.3	8.3	8.4	0	-.1		
92 Other State Government	10.7	10.7	10.7	0	0		
93 Local Education	26.3	27.1	24.5	-.8	1.8		
93 Other Local Government	14.5	14.4	13.7	.1	.8		

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.
2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

TABLE V
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

April 1980

in Thousands

I N D U S T R Y	Net Changes to Current Month from:				
	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	33.0	33.0	33.8	0	-.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	30.8	30.8	31.7	0	-.9
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.3	1.1	1.4	.2	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	6.6	6.8	6.3	-.2	.3
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/} ..	7.0	6.0	6.7	1.0	.3

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	29.3	29.2	29.8	.1	-.5
Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Contract Construction	1.4	1.4	1.8	0	-.4
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
Trade	9.5	9.5	9.6	0	-.1
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.9	2.7	-.2	0
Retail Trade	6.7	6.6	6.9	.1	-.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	.1
Services and Mining	6.9	6.9	6.9	0	0
Government	5.9	5.9	6.0	0	-.1
Federal Government	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	-.1
State and Local Government	4.1	4.1	4.1	0	0

^{1/} Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

^{2/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks

TABLE VI
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

April 1980

in Thousands

I N D U S T R Y	Net Changes to Current Month from:				
	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	55.7	56.6	54.1	-.9	1.6
EMPLOYED PERSONS	53.1	53.6	52.1	-.5	1.0
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.5	1.2	1.6	.3	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.6	3.0	2.0	-.4	.6
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	4.6	5.3	3.8	-.7	.8
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	4.7	4.7	3.9	0	.8

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS					
(Establishment Data)	48.1	48.1	46.6	0	1.5
Manufacturing	4.5	4.5	4.1	0	.4
Contract Construction	2.2	2.3	2.6	-.1	-.4
Transportation and Public Utilities	4.8	4.8	4.6	0	.2
Trade	16.2	16.1	15.7	.1	.5
Wholesale Trade	5.7	5.8	5.2	-.1	.5
Retail Trade	10.5	10.3	10.5	.2	0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Services and Mining	10.2	10.2	9.5	0	.7
Government	7.8	7.9	7.7	-.1	.1
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
State and Local Government	6.2	6.3	6.2	-.1	0

^{1/} Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

^{2/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS^{1/}

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980
STATEWIDE	353.6	364.3	371.7	328.7	340.5	347.3	24.9	23.8	24.4	7.0	6.5	6.6
GREAT FALLS SMSA	32.0	33.0	33.0	29.6	30.8	30.8	2.4	2.2	2.2	7.5	6.8	6.6
BILLINGS SMSA	55.6	56.6	55.7	52.5	53.6	53.1	3.1	3.0	2.6	5.6	5.3	4.6
BALANCE OF STATE ^{2/}	266.0	274.7	283.0	246.6	256.1	263.4	19.4	18.6	19.6	7.3	6.7	6.9
ANACONDA-BUTTE	31.8	32.5	33.2	29.6	30.5	31.1	2.2	2.0	2.1	6.8	6.1	6.3
BOZEMAN	25.9	26.1	26.3	24.0	24.4	24.6	1.9	1.7	1.7	7.5	6.5	6.6
GLASGOW	16.5	17.3	18.0	15.7	16.5	17.4	.8	.8	.6	4.9	4.3	3.3
GLENDIVE	13.8	14.3	14.8	13.2	13.8	14.4	.6	.5	.4	4.1	3.6	2.8
HARDIN-RED LODGE	12.0	12.4	13.1	11.2	11.7	12.4	.8	.7	.7	6.5	5.7	5.1
HAVRE	12.5	13.1	13.6	11.7	12.3	12.8	.8	.8	.8	6.7	6.1	5.5
HELENA	26.6	27.3	28.3	25.0	25.8	26.8	1.6	1.5	1.5	6.0	5.5	5.3
KALISPELL	38.4	39.7	39.9	34.4	35.4	34.9	4.0	4.3	5.0	10.3	10.9	12.5
LEWISTOWN	10.3	10.8	11.7	9.7	10.3	11.1	.6	.5	.6	5.7	4.3	5.0
MILES CITY	13.9	14.7	15.3	13.2	14.0	14.6	.7	.7	.7	5.3	5.0	4.4
MISSOULA	48.4	49.6	51.2	44.1	45.6	46.5	4.3	4.0	4.7	8.9	8.0	9.2
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.0	16.9	17.8	14.9	15.8	16.8	1.1	1.1	1.0	7.0	6.4	5.5

^{1/} A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.^{2/} Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Areas.

Totals may not add due to rounding

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS^{1/}

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Percent Change			Percent Change			Net Change			Net Change		
	Apr. 1980	Apr. 1979	1979-1980	Apr. 1980	Apr. 1979	1979-1980	Apr. 1980	Apr. 1979	1979-1980	Apr. 1980	Apr. 1979	1979-1980
STATEWIDE	371.7	363.5	2.1	347.3	343.3	1.2	24.4	20.2	4.2	6.6	5.6	1.0
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.0	33.8	-2.4	30.8	31.7	-2.8	2.2	2.1	.1	6.6	6.3	.3
BILLINGS SMSA	55.7	54.1	3.0	53.1	52.1	1.9	2.6	2.0	.6	4.6	3.8	.8
BALANCE OF STATE ^{2/}	283.0	275.6	2.7	263.4	259.5	1.5	19.6	16.1	3.5	6.9	5.8	1.1
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.2	34.1	-2.6	31.1	31.9	-2.5	2.1	2.2	-.1	6.3	6.5	-.2
BOZEMAN	26.3	26.1	.8	24.6	24.9	-1.2	1.7	1.2	.5	6.6	4.7	1.9
GLASGOW	18.0	17.2	4.7	17.4	16.5	5.5	.6	.7	-.1	3.3	4.3	-1.0
GLENDIVE	14.8	14.6	1.4	14.4	14.2	1.4	.4	.4	0	2.8	3.0	-.2
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.1	12.7	2.4	12.4	12.2	1.6	.7	.5	.2	5.1	3.7	1.4
HAVRE	13.6	13.0	4.6	12.8	12.4	3.2	.8	.6	.2	5.5	4.5	1.0
HELENA	28.3	28.2	.4	26.8	26.9	-.4	1.5	1.3	.2	5.3	4.7	.6
KALISPELL	39.9	36.7	8.7	34.9	33.3	4.8	5.0	3.4	1.6	12.5	9.3	3.2
LEWISTOWN	11.7	11.1	5.4	11.1	10.7	3.7	.6	.4	.2	5.0	3.7	1.3
MILES CITY	15.3	15.3	0	14.6	14.7	-.7	.7	.6	.1	4.4	4.0	.4
MISSOULA	51.2	49.0	4.5	46.5	45.3	2.6	4.7	3.7	1.0	9.2	7.5	1.7
SHELBY-CUT BANK	17.8	17.4	2.3	16.8	16.5	1.8	1.0	.9	.1	5.5	5.1	.4

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
 2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY

CIVILIAN
LABOR FORCE

EMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT

APRIL 1980
PERCENT
RATE

STATEWIDE	371722	347340	24382	6.6
CASCADE	32974	30801	2173	6.6
YELLOWSSTONE	55692	53139	2553	4.6
BEAVERHEAD	4006	3841	165	4.1
BIG HORN	6094	5746	348	5.7
BLAINE	3381	3118	263	7.8
BROADWATER	1839	1709	130	7.1
CARBON	3083	2911	172	5.6
CARTER	931	828	103	11.1
CHOUTEAU	3116	3052	64	2.1
CUSTER	6127	5880	247	4.0
DANIELS	1540	1518	22	1.4
DAMSCN	5564	5390	174	3.1
DEER LODGE	5030	4714	316	6.3
FALLCN	2301	2250	51	2.2
FERGUS	6148	5836	312	5.1
FLATHEAD	23964	21458	2506	10.5
GALLATIN	19209	18096	1113	5.8
GARFIELD	831	798	33	4.0
GLACIER	5233	4743	490	9.4
GOLDEN VALLEY	427	397	30	7.0
GRANITE	1087	976	111	10.2
HILL	9037	8578	459	5.1
JEFFERSON	2201	2055	146	6.6
JUDITH BASIN	11247	1132	115	9.2
LAKE	8106	7560	546	6.7
LEWIS AND CLARK	24237	23026	1211	5.0
LIBERTY	1155	1127	28	2.4
LINCOLN	7846	5904	1942	24.8
MC CONE	1226	1193	33	2.7
MADISON	2389	2262	127	5.3
MEAGHER	1065	978	87	8.2
MINERAL	1814	1558	256	14.1
MISSOULA	37205	34274	2931	17.9
MUSSELSHELL	2294	2259	35	1.5
PARK	6009	5480	529	8.8
PETROLEUM	339	330	9	2.7
PHILLIPS	2732	2639	93	3.4
PONDERA	3609	3465	144	4.0
POWDER RIVER	1203	1177	26	2.2
POWELL	3535	3265	270	7.6
PRAIRIE	793	773	20	2.5
RAVALLI	8366	7477	889	10.6
RICHLAND	5690	5555	135	2.4
ROOSEVELT	5877	5647	230	3.9
ROSEBUD	4244	4018	226	5.3
SANDERS	3814	3192	622	16.3
SHERIDAN	3067	3034	33	1.1
SILVER BOW	17172	16053	1119	6.5
STILLWATER	2162	2049	113	5.2
SWEET GRASS	1701	1673	128	1.6
TETON	2912	2752	160	5.5
TOOLE	2558	2841	117	4.0
TREASURE	487	468	19	3.9
VALLEY	4735	4521	214	4.5
WHEATLAND	1224	1146	78	6.4
WIBAUX	694	678	16	2.3

MONTANA-MONTHLY LABOR-FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE	MARCH 1980
STATEWIDE	364284	340528	23756	6.5	
CASCADE	33009	30777	2232	6.8	
YELLOWSTONE	56614	53599	3015	5.3	
BEAVERHEAD	3774	3610	164	4.3	
BIG HORN	5814	5427	387	6.7	
BLAINE	3188	2918	270	8.5	
BROADWATER	1539	1458	81	5.3	
CARBON	3132	2948	184	5.9	
CARTER	838	747	91	10.9	
CHOUTEAU	2799	2727	72	2.6	
CUSTER	5769	5516	253	4.4	
DANIELS	1404	1381	23	1.6	
DAWSON	5433	5225	208	3.8	
DEER LODGE	4995	4668	327	6.5	
FALLON	2372	2306	66	2.8	
FERGUS	5903	5638	265	4.5	
FLATHEAD	24200	21859	2341	9.7	
GALLATIN	19252	18123	1129	5.9	
GARFIELD	793	745	48	6.1	
GLACIER	5136	4587	549	10.7	
GOLDEN VALLEY	376	354	22	5.9	
GRANITE	1054	949	105	10.0	
HILL	8752	8255	497	5.7	
JEFFERSON	2189	2026	163	7.4	
JUDITH BASIN	1161	1045	116	10.0	
LAKE	8095	7411	684	8.4	
LEWIS AND CLARK	23621	22365	1256	5.3	
LIBERTY	1122	1090	32	2.9	
LINCOLN	7415	6120	1295	17.5	
MC CNE	1175	1152	23	2.0	
MADISON	2219	2106	113	5.1	
MEAGHER	964	910	54	5.6	
MINERAL	1839	1621	218	11.9	
MISSOULA	36067	33596	2471	6.9	
MUSSELSHELL	1968	1932	36	1.8	
PARK	5888	5381	507	8.6	
PETROLEUM	304	295	9	3.0	
PHILLIPS	2555	2436	119	4.7	
PONDERA	3546	3363	183	5.2	
POWDER RIVER	1100	1069	31	2.8	
POWELL	3541	3355	186	5.3	
PRAIRIE	758	719	39	5.1	
RAVALLI	7960	7116	844	10.6	
RICHLAND	5452	5278	174	3.2	
ROOSEVELT	5876	5597	279	4.7	
ROSEBUD	4187	3914	273	6.5	
SANDERS	3767	3317	450	11.9	
SHERIDAN	2866	2826	40	1.4	
SILVER BOW	16866	15786	1080	6.4	
STILLWATER	1998	1905	93	4.7	
SWEET GRASS	1505	1464	41	2.7	
TETON	2728	2590	138	5.1	
TOOLE	2673	2530	143	5.3	
TREASURE	404	390	14	3.5	
VALLEY	4584	4302	282	6.2	
WHEATLAND	1090	1069	21	1.9	
WIBAUX	655	635	20	3.1	

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE X

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

April 1980

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT				TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
	Apr. 1980 ^{1/}	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Net Change to Current Month From:	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980		Mar. 1980	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers	129.8	130.9	126.5	-1.1	279.3	46.5	279.9	46.8
Manufacturing	2.9	3.3	3.0	-.4	22.3	13.0	24.8	13.3
Mining	.4	.5	.4	-.1	7.3	5.5	7.6	6.6
Contract Construction	1.4	1.4	1.3	0	13.4	10.4	12.7	11.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	22.5	19.1	22.6	19.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.6	35.6	35.7	0	73.4	48.5	72.3	49.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.4	8.4	8.4	0	12.7	66.1	12.8	65.6
Services	34.4	34.3	34.7	.1	56.3	61.1	55.5	61.8
Government ^{2/}	42.3	43.1	38.8	-.8	71.4	59.2	71.7	60.1

^{1/} Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1979 Benchmark.

^{2/} Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Establishment Series began January 1974.

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1979

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun.</u>	<u>Jul.</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sep.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Ann. Avg.</u>
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	126.7	122.4	124.2	126.5	128.1	129.1	127.7	128.5	130.4	130.3	132.6	132.7	128.2
Manufacturing.....	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.2
Mining.....	.4	.4	.4	.4	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.4	.4	.4
Contract Construction.....	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	38.7	35.6	35.7	35.7	36.5	36.8	36.3	36.0	37.0	36.9	36.8	37.2	36.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4
Services.....	35.0	34.8	35.0	34.7	35.0	34.9	34.1	34.3	34.7	35.1	35.3	35.2	34.8
Government.....	35.7	34.8	36.2	38.8	38.9	38.9	38.7	38.8	40.3	39.9	42.5	42.5	38.8

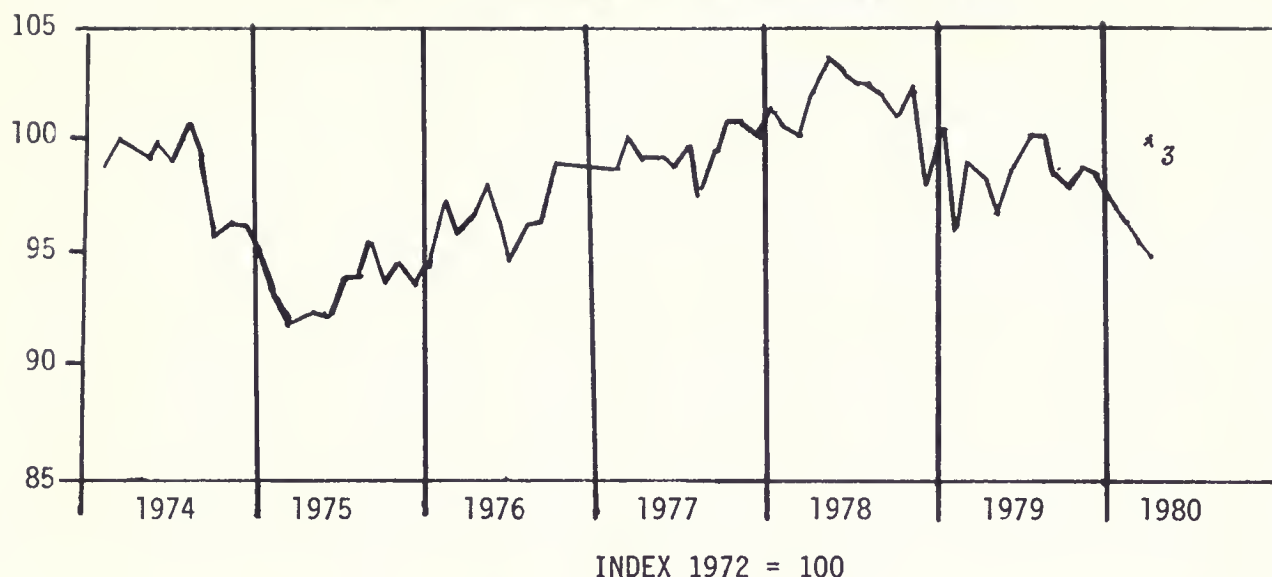
1980

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9	130.9	129.8
Manufacturing.....	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.9
Mining.....	.5	.5	.5	.4
Contract Construction.....	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	36.5	36.5	35.6	35.6
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4
Services	36.2	36.2	34.3	34.4
Government.....	42.5	42.5	43.1	42.3

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Revised to 1979 Benchmark

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



MONTHLY FIGURES of COMPOSITE INDEX

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

1978

January	100.6
February	100.2
March	102.2
April	102.8
May	103.1

1979

January	96.1
February	98.6
March	98.2
April	96.4
May	98.5
June	100.4
July	100.3
August	98.9
September	98.4
October	99.2
November	98.5
December	97.8

1980

January	96.7
February	<i>95.6</i>
March	95.1

Montana's Composite Index for March dropped to 95.1%, which is half a point lower than February's figure of 95.6%. Even though this is the fifth consecutive decline recorded since October, 1979, it is the smallest decline over the previous month since the index began to fall.

Of the six leading indicators used in computing the Composite Index, those reflecting negative movements were the manufacturing accession rate, average weekly initial claims, and building permits. High interest rates, the housing market, and the slump in the lumber and woods industry may be factors affecting the movement of these indicators. Positive movement was recorded in the manufacturing layoff rate, average weekly hours, and employment during the month of March.

Components of Composite Index

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.

- * Indicates last month of plotted data.
- ** Figures in italics indicate declines from previous month.

REAL SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS
OF PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WORKERS
(1967) DOLLARS

Average Weekly Earnings

Real Spendable Earnings

1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980

250
230
210
190
170
150
100
90
80
DOLLARS

	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1979
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	234.24	224.93	221.43
3/ Taxes Withheld	36.46	33.87	34.56
Spendable Earnings	197.77	191.06	186.87
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	115.33	110.27	97.58
Real Spendable Earnings	82.44	80.79	89.29

	1) Average Weekly Earnings	2) Real Spendable Earnings
1979		
Jan.	215.42	89.20
Feb.	219.57	89.60
Mar.	221.43	89.29
Apr.	220.68	88.10
May	225.42	88.52
June	236.99	91.26
July	233.87	89.41
Aug.	234.99	88.73
Sept.	238.74	91.96
Oct.	236.90	89.02
Nov.	230.62	86.23
Dec.	233.24	86.12
1980		
Jan.	232.60	84.36
Feb.	224.93	80.79
Mar.	234.24	82.44

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

Real spendable earnings were computed with an upward movement for March, the first positive movement since December, 1979. Real spendable earnings increased by \$1.65 since February to \$82.44 for March, 1980.

While the Consumer Price Index continued to climb at a rate of 1.4% per month, gross average weekly earnings rose from \$224.93 for February to \$234.24 for March, an increase of \$9.31. This compares to average weekly earnings of \$221.43 in March, 1979.

* Indicates last month of plotted data.

1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

Table XII
MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						Montana	U. S.	
1978								
January	358.4	335.5	302.1	33.4	22.9	6.4	6.3	*
February	360.0	337.4	303.8	33.6	22.6	6.3	6.1	*
March	364.2	340.1	306.6	33.5	24.1	6.6	6.2	*
April	366.1	344.3	312.0	32.3	21.8	6.0	6.1	*
May	367.7	346.1	313.0	33.1	21.6	5.9	6.1	.1
June	368.9	346.6	313.5	33.1	22.3	6.0	5.8	.4
July	372.2	349.9	316.8	33.1	22.3	6.0	6.1	.2
August	371.9	349.8	316.9	32.9	22.1	5.9	5.9	.1
September	372.6	351.0	318.3	32.7	21.6	5.8	5.9	.1
October	370.7	350.5	317.9	32.6	20.2	5.4	5.8	.1
November	371.8	350.4	317.8	32.6	21.4	5.8	5.8	*
December	371.5	350.3	317.6	32.7	21.2	5.7	5.9	*
Avg.	368.0	346.0	313.0	33.0	22.0	6.0	6.0	.1
1979								
January	370.3	346.8	314.1	32.7	23.5	6.4	5.8	*
February	368.4	347.5	314.8	32.7	20.9	5.7	5.7	1.8
March	366.8	347.3	314.7	32.6	19.5	5.3	5.7	*
April	367.9	347.6	315.2	32.4	20.3	5.5	5.8	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.9	32.2	19.4	5.2	5.8	*
June	371.5	352.9	320.8	32.1	18.6	5.0	5.7	*
July	368.7	350.0	318.1	31.9	18.7	5.1	5.7	*
August	368.0	350.7	318.9	31.8	17.3	4.7	5.9	*
September	369.9	352.8	320.9	31.9	17.1	4.6	5.8	*
October	372.2	354.9	322.9	32.0	17.3	4.7	5.9	*
November	372.5	355.4	323.4	32.0	17.1	4.6	5.8	*
December	373.5	355.1	323.0	32.1	18.4	4.9	5.9	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.2
1980								
January	370.3	348.4	316.3	32.1	21.9	5.9	6.2	*
February	374.1	353.1	321.1	32.0	21.0	5.6	6.0	1.1
March	377.8	357.1	325.3	31.8	20.7	5.5	6.2	.7
April	376.1	351.6	320.1	31.5	24.5	6.5	7.0	.2
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary

Table XIII
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1978								
January	33.3	30.9	29.6	1.3	2.4	7.2	6.4	*
February	34.2	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.6	7.5	6.3	*
March	34.0	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.4	7.1	6.6	*
April	34.3	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.1	6.3	6.0	*
May	34.5	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.3	6.6	5.9	*
June	34.7	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.4	6.9	6.0	*
July	34.2	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.3	6.8	6.0	*
August	34.7	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.4	6.9	5.9	*
September	34.7	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.5	7.1	5.8	*
October	34.3	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.2	6.4	5.4	*
November	34.2	31.7	30.4	1.3	2.5	7.4	5.8	*
December	34.6	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.6	7.5	5.7	*
Avg.	34.3	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.4	7.0	6.0	*
1979								
January	34.6	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.7	7.8	6.4	*
February	34.7	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.5	7.2	5.7	*
March	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.5	5.3	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	6.7	5.5	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.4	5.2	*
June	34.3	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.0	*
July	34.2	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
August	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	5.9	4.7	*
September	33.7	31.8	20.5	1.3	1.9	5.5	4.6	*
October	33.5	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.8	5.3	4.7	*
November	33.5	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.8	5.4	4.6	*
December	33.4	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.8	5.5	4.9	
Avg.	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	33.3	31.0	29.7	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.9	*
February	33.6	31.4	30.1	1.3	2.2	6.6	5.6	*
March	33.8	31.7	30.4	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.5	*
April	33.5	31.1	29.9	1.2	2.4	7.0	6.5	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

Table XIV
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1978								
January	52.0	49.4	47.9	1.5	2.6	5.1	6.4	*
February	52.3	49.7	48.2	1.5	2.6	4.9	6.3	*
March	53.1	50.1	48.6	1.5	3.0	5.6	6.6	*
April	52.8	50.4	48.9	1.5	2.4	4.6	6.0	*
May	53.3	50.8	49.3	1.5	2.5	4.7	5.9	*
June	53.6	51.1	49.6	1.5	2.5	4.6	6.0	*
July	53.3	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.4	4.6	6.0	*
August	54.0	51.5	50.0	1.5	2.5	4.6	5.9	*
September	54.4	52.0	50.5	1.5	2.4	4.5	5.8	*
October	54.0	51.9	50.4	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.4	*
November	54.4	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.7	4.9	5.8	*
December	54.2	51.8	50.3	1.5	2.4	4.4	5.7	*
Avg.	53.4	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.5	4.7	6.0	*
1979								
January	54.8	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.6	4.8	6.4	*
February	54.7	52.4	50.9	1.5	2.3	4.2	5.7	*
March	54.5	52.4	50.9	1.5	2.1	3.9	5.3	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	3.9	5.5	*
May	55.3	53.2	51.7	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	55.2	53.3	51.8	1.5	1.9	3.4	5.0	*
July	55.9	53.9	52.4	1.5	2.0	3.5	5.1	*
August	55.8	53.9	52.4	1.5	1.9	3.3	4.7	*
September	55.5	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.8	3.3	4.6	*
October	55.5	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.8	3.2	4.7	*
November	55.9	54.0	52.5	1.5	1.9	3.5	4.6	*
December	55.8	53.9	52.4	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.9	*
Avg.	55.3	53.3	51.8	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	56.6	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.5	4.4	5.9	*
February	57.5	54.8	53.3	1.5	2.7	4.7	5.6	.7
March	58.1	55.4	53.9	1.5	2.7	4.7	5.5	.3
April	56.5	53.9	52.5	1.4	2.6	4.7	6.5	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers

^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

April 1980

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979
TOTAL PRIVATE	\$230.41	234.24	220.68	36.4	36.6	36.0	6.33	6.40	6.13
MANUFACTURING	373.10	391.30	334.96	41.0	43.0	40.7	9.10	9.10	8.23
Durable Goods	385.69	389.82	334.14	40.9	43.8	40.6	9.43	8.90	8.23
Primary Metal Industries	440.26	407.08	353.98	41.3	40.7	34.3	10.66	10.00	10.32
Nondurable Goods	354.35	357.73	335.38	41.3	41.5	40.8	8.58	8.62	8.22
Food and Kindred Products	306.45	306.90	265.44	45.0	45.4	42.0	6.81	6.76	6.32
MINING	407.97	410.62	457.45	48.8	49.0	47.8	8.36	8.38	9.57
Metal Mining	388.30	388.30	458.50	35.3	35.3	39.8	11.00	11.00	11.52
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	368.47	367.37	348.39	36.7	36.7	34.7	10.04	10.01	10.04
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	349.92	346.96	329.70	43.2	43.1	42.0	8.10	8.05	7.85
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	404.54	396.55	315.86	51.6	51.3	42.8	7.84	7.73	7.38
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	181.57	183.48	173.20	33.5	33.3	33.5	5.42	5.51	5.17
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	160.94	163.15	150.67	33.6	33.5	34.4	4.79	4.87	4.38
SERVICES	150.67	150.33	140.11	34.4	34.4	33.6	4.38	4.37	4.17

Data for current month are preliminary.

Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.

Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE XVI

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

March 1980

ACCESSION RATES SEPARATION RATES

	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1979	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1979	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1979	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1979	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1979	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1979
MANUFACTURING	1.6	0.6	2.6	1.0	0.4	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.4	2.8	4.9	3.7	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.5	2.3	1.8
Durable Goods	1.5	0.3	3.1	0.6	0.0	1.4	0.7	0.2	0.4	3.2	2.7	2.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.2	1.0	1.1
Primary Metal Industries	1.3	0.7	2.9	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.4	1.9	5.4	3.6	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.9	0.7	1.3
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.0	10.6	6.9	1.1	1.1	2.3	0.1	5.3	3.2
MINING	15.5	7.7	0.5	11.7	6.5	*	2.5	0.8	0.5	8.1	11.8	2.5	2.2	6.8	1.5	4.8	0.4	0.5
Metal Mining	5.8	1.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	*	4.6	0.0	1.6	2.4	2.3	1.5	0.0	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0

* Less than .05.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XVII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

<u>Industry</u>	<u>April 1980</u>	<u>April 1979</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
			<u>1980</u>	<u>1979</u>
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	28	26	129	142
MINING	31	21	106	70
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	37	62	188	164
MANUFACTURING	9	17	83	87
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	19	16	88	86
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	104	77	457	402
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	37	26	174	180
SERVICES	125	110	581	519
NON-PROFIT SERVICES	(34)	(16)	(139)	(75)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	3	5	62	26
STATE TOTAL	393 (40.)	360	1868	1947

TABLE XVIII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS					NEW BUSINESS FIRMS				
Areas	Year to Date				Areas	Year to Date			
	April 1980	April 1979	1980	1979		April 1980	April 1979	1980	1979
STATE OF MONTANA	393	360	1878	1776	HAVRE LMA	13	9	49	43
GREAT FALLS SMSA	21	28	134	135	Blaine	4	1	11	7
BILLINGS SMSA	55	52	270	297	Hill	7	8	30	32
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS					Liberty	2	0	8	4
MULTI-COUNTY	77	INA	187	INA	HELENA LMA	25	31	118	154
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	13	27	113	121	Broadwater	1	4	2	11
Beaverhead	1	6	20	21	Jefferson	2	3	8	15
Deer Lodge	0	0	7	10	Lewis and Clark	22	27	108	128
Granite	0	0	6	4	KALISPELL LMA	44	56	227	227
Madison	4	3	15	16	Flathead	30	36	151	149
Powell	2	3	15	12	Lake	4	14	37	39
Silver Bow	6	10	50	57	Lincoln	10	6	39	39
BOZEMAN LMA	30	29	129	112	LEWISTOWN LMA	9	7	39	31
Gallatin	22	22	92	106	Fergus	6	3	24	18
Meagher	2	0	7	3	Golden Valley	0	0	2	1
Park	6	7	30	32	Judith Basin	0	0	3	4
GLASGOW LMA	14	8	60	57	Musselshell	2	3	8	6
Daniels	2	2	4	6	Petroleum	0	0	1	0
Phillips	3	1	12	12	Wheatland	1	1	1	2
Roosevelt	5	1	19	9	MILES CITY LMA	13	5	62	46
Sheridan	1	3	11	10	Carter	1	0	4	0
Valley	3	1	14	20	Custer	3	4	15	24
GLENDIVE LMA	12	17	114	100	Fallon	6	1	20	11
Dawson	3	3	30	22	Powder River	3	0	6	1
Garfield	0	0	3	2	Rosebud	0	0	16	9
McCone	0	3	13	5	Treasure	0	0	1	1
Prairie	1	0	6	3	MISSOULA LMA	41	65	242	303
Richland	8	11	61	65	Mineral	0	0	5	5
Wibaux	0	0	1	3	Missoula	24	48	174	225
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	10	8	44	52	Ravalli	14	11	45	55
Big Horn	2	6	12	17	Sanders	3	6	18	17
Carbon	5	0	13	20	SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	16	18	90	79
Stillwater	2	1	14	7	Choteau	0	0	14	18
Sweet Grass	1	1	5	8	Glacier	4	5	28	15
					Pondera	5	6	19	19
					Teton	4	2	8	7
					Toole	3	5	21	20

Sources of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

EMPLOYER CLASSIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE RATING

Effective January 1, 1980, Montana instituted the "reserve ratio" experience rating system. Under this system each subject employer (excluding some nonprofit organizations and all government entities) is assigned an "experience factor" which is contributions paid minus benefits charged on each employer's account since July 1, 1976, divided by the employer's average annual taxable payroll for the 3 fiscal years immediately preceding the computation date. Each employer with a positive "experience factor" is designated as an eligible employer and those with a negative "experience factor" are designated as deficit employers. Schedules are then prepared listing all eligible and deficit employers in inverse numerical order of their experience factors as well as the cumulative taxable payrolls for all of those employers. The cumulative taxable payroll amounts are then segregated into groups that will yield approximately the average tax rate according to the tax schedule assigned for that particular taxable year. Each group will be identified by the rate class listed on the schedule and each employer is assigned that contribution rate opposite their rate class for the tax schedule in effect for the taxable year.

The rate schedule for each calendar year is assigned based upon the ratio of the trust fund balance as of December 31 prior to the rate year to total wages in covered employment for the previous fiscal year.

Schedules of contribution rates are shown on the following page. The rate schedule assigned for taxable year 1980 is Schedule IX. As can be noted, the minimum ratio of fund to total wages must be .0050 to assign Schedule IX and the approximate average tax yield will be 2.9% for that schedule. Eligible employers will be assigned contribution rates of 1.7% to 3.5% and deficit employers 3.8% to 4.4% based on their respective rate class assignment. Unrated employers (those with less than 3 years of experience) are all assigned a rate of 3.7%.

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTION RATES

Minimum Ratio of Fund to Total Wages	Sched. I	Sched. II	Sched. III	Sched. IV	Sched. V	Sched. VI	Sched. VII	Sched. VIII	Sched. IX	Sched. X
Average Tax Rate	(.0150) 1.3	(.0145) 1.5	(.0140) 1.7	(.0130) 1.9	(.0120) 2.1	(.0110) 2.3	(.0095) 2.5	(.0075) 2.7	(.005) 2.9	(.....) 3.1
Rate Class	CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR ELIGIBLE EMPLOYERS									
1	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%	0.9%	1.1%	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%	1.9%
2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2
3	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.5
4	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8
5	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.1
6	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4
7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.7

CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR UNRATED EMPLOYERS:

2.1%	2.3%	2.5%	2.7%	2.9%	3.1%	3.3%	3.5%	3.7%	3.9%
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR DEFICIT EMPLOYERS

Rate Class	2.2%	2.4%	2.6%	2.8%	3.0%	3.2%	3.4%	3.6%	3.8%	4.0%
1	2.2%	2.4%	2.6%	2.8%	3.0%	3.2%	3.4%	3.6%	3.8%	4.0%
2	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2
3	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4
4	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.4
5	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4
6	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

FTAS-159D

DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

COUNTY	APRIL 1980 COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	301	27,587.96
BIGHORN	396	34,819.79
BLAINE	380	31,753.31
BROADWATER	236	22,864.24
CARBON	309	29,268.00
CARTER	17	1,498.00
CASCADE	4,647	430,440.10
CHOUTEAU	60	5,091.04
CLUSTER	462	40,268.10
DANIELS	33	3,126.00
DAWSON	239	23,370.00
DEER LODGE	653	57,770.57
FALLON	59	5,263.00
FERGUS	589	50,986.55
FLATHEAD	5,913	560,915.93
GALLATIN	2,438	219,146.71
GARFIELD	10	671.00
GLACIER	772	63,905.10
GOLDEN VALLEY	17	1,534.00
GRANITE	147	11,440.58
HILL	882	78,532.21
JEFFERSON	274	27,488.84
JUDITH BASIN	50	4,033.60
LAKE	1,045	93,051.38
LEWIS AND CLARK	2,251	206,110.51
LIBERTY	39	3,863.00
LINCOLN	4,314	421,942.00
MCCONE	18	1,443.00
MADISON	169	14,042.12
MEAGHER	88	8,244.80
MINERAL	491	49,407.01
MISSOULA	6,660	634,939.19
MUSSELSHELL	68	6,774.00
PARK	923	81,317.80
PETROLEUM	7	713.00
PHILLIPS	154	13,614.12
PONDERA	296	28,931.26
POWDER RIVER	18	1,988.00
POWELL	414	38,085.87
PRAIRIE	47	3,890.00
RAVALLI	1,712	151,518.09
RICHLAND	188	16,597.96
ROOSEVELT	224	17,361.19
ROSEBUD	285	26,386.63
SANDERS	1,451	145,678.33
SHERIDAN	39	3,348.00
SILVER BOW	2,428	225,000.87
STILLWATER	224	20,158.00
SWEET GRASS	43	4,845.00
TFTCN	196	17,950.79
TOOLE	271	24,609.20
TREASURE	15	1,670.00
VALLEY	374	33,776.35
WHEATLAND	12	1,164.00
WIBAUX	21	1,297.80
YELLOWSTONE	5,840	551,787.88
INTRASTATE	49,209	4,584,010.00
INTERSTATE	1,679	189,138.22
TOTAL	50,888	4,773,148.22

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE		
COUNTY	JANUARY 1980 THRU APRIL 1980	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,323	120,364.61
BIGHORN	2,002	176,710.94
BLAINE	1,486	129,404.28
BROADWATER	841	82,592.74
CARBON	1,595	157,690.39
CARTER	88	7,852.52
CASCADE	20,774	1,959,846.64
CHOUTEAU	335	26,496.56
CUSTER	1,869	169,777.28
DANIELS	114	10,211.26
DAWSON	1,195	117,423.05
DEER LODGE	2,900	259,409.90
FALLON	276	25,765.60
FERGUS	2,416	214,471.63
FLATHEAD	19,720	1,788,897.50
GALLATIN	10,541	955,498.49
GARFIELD	32	3,215.00
GLACIER	3,595	292,872.22
GOLDEN VALLEY	62	5,733.00
GRANITE	599	47,234.40
HILL	3,890	342,312.05
JEFFERSON	1,296	135,442.63
JUDITH BASIN	174	14,959.14
LAKE	4,887	437,121.05
LEWIS AND CLARK	10,105	934,865.99
LIBERTY	243	24,409.80
LINCOLN	10,807	995,146.87
MCCONE	120	8,597.00
MADISON	593	48,655.11
MEAGHER	259	22,030.80
MINERAL	1,876	176,455.03
MISSOULA	23,822	2,170,828.06
MUSSELSHELL	330	33,511.00
PARK	3,693	315,405.52
PETROLEUM	47	3,647.50
PHILLIPS	778	70,303.82
PONDERA	1,342	131,757.31
POWDER RIVER	147	15,100.00
POWELL	1,631	144,958.86
PRAIRIE	268	24,515.92
RAVALLI	7,476	649,009.78
RICHLAND	780	69,764.10
ROOSEVELT	1,137	91,905.42
ROSEBUD	1,612	144,871.44
SANDERS	4,344	409,664.72
SHERIDAN	212	18,337.00
SILVER BOW	9,181	848,208.13
STILLWATER	1,063	102,210.00
SWEET GRASS	241	25,939.37
TETON	972	89,670.01
TOOLE	1,143	111,486.59
TREASURE	78	8,712.00
VALLEY	1,945	179,701.27
WHEATLAND	92	8,621.65
WIBAUX	103	8,679.80
YELLOWSTONE	25,819	2,553,001.86
INTRASTATE	194,269	17,294,310.53
INTERSTATE	6,860	696,455.90
TOTAL	201,129	18,620,766.43

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1980	1979	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims ^{1/}	24,609	20,202	4,407	21.8
Continued Claims ^{1/}	239,059	217,052	22,007	10.1
Number of Benefit Payments ^{1/}	201,129	186,156	14,973	8.0
Amount of Benefits Paid ^{1/}	\$18,620,765	\$15,891,295	\$2,729,470	17.2
Average Weekly Benefit Amount ^{1/ 2/}	\$97.03	\$89.26	\$7.77	8.7

MONTHLY

	APRIL 1980	MARCH 1980	APRIL 1979	Change From Year Ago Net	Percent
Initial Claims ^{1/}	7,203	3,918	3,767	3,436	91.2
Continued Claims ^{1/}	59,926	53,333	44,524	15,402	34.6
Number of Benefit Payments ^{1/}	50,888	50,078	38,173	12,715	33.3
Amount of Benefits Paid ^{1/}	\$4,773,148	\$4,650,081	\$3,237,651	\$1,535,497	47.4
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt ^{1/ 2/}	\$99.13	\$97.28	\$89.14	\$9.99	11.2
Trust Fund Balance	\$11,069,913*	\$10,506,757*	-\$953,915**	\$12,023,828	1260.5

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.

2/ Derived According to Definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".

* Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to \$ 7,084,089.

** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to \$10,484,089.

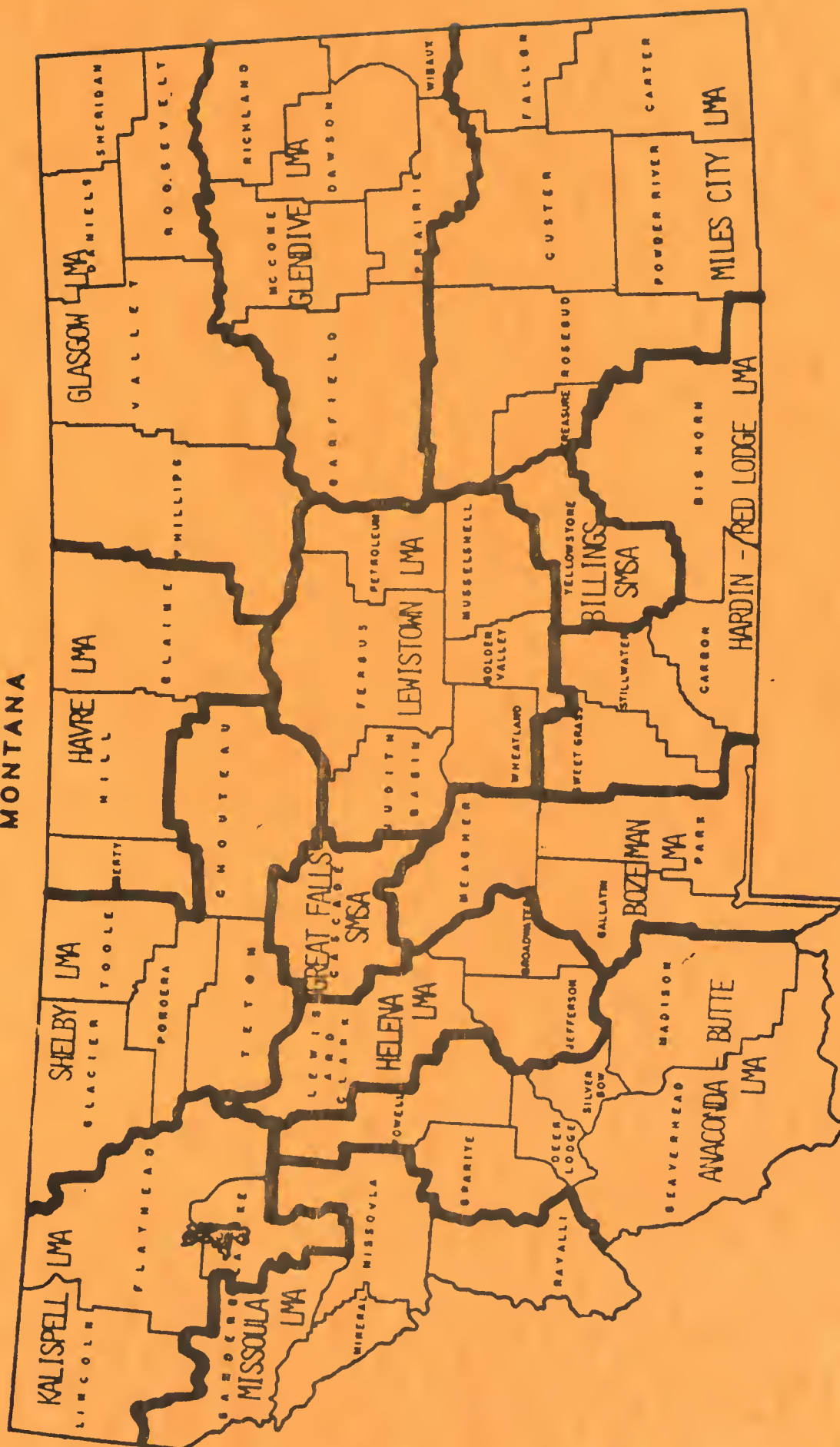
The figures for April bear little resemblance to those usually expected this time of year. Instead of dropping as the weather improved, the number of initial claims increased immoderately from last month and almost doubled from last year. Continued claims, too, climbed from the numbers tallied in March and last April. Year-to-date totals, of course, are more than normally higher.

Number and amount of benefits paid out this April slightly exceeded those for March (should have been smaller) and the comparison between this month and a year ago showed a sharp boost in the benefits paid in 1980. Cumulative figures reflect the larger than usual monthly advance.

For the first four months of 1979 the Average Weekly Benefit Amount stayed essentially the same at a little more than \$89.00. This year the AWBA has risen almost \$4.00 since January for an April figure of \$99.13, nearly \$10.00 more than April 1979.

This month the Trust Fund Balance gained more than \$500,000 from March, in spite of the larger number of claims. April, 1979 was the last month with a deficit amount of the fund which has shown a gradual rate of growth since then. From preliminary reports, it appears the number of both initial and continued claims may drop next month which would be normal for the spring season, and considering the present economic situation would be an encouraging sign.

MONTANA



MONTANA EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY DIVISION

P.O. BOX 1728

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

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The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 24 local Job Service Offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.

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